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AN  
E P I S T L E  
TO  
A F R I E N D,  
WITH OTHER  
P O E M S.

BY THE AUTHOR OF  
"THE PLEASURES OF MEMORY."

L O N D O N:  
PRINTED BY R. NOBLE,  
FOR T. CADELL, JUNIOR, AND W. DAVIES,  
STRAND.

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1798.



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A N

E P I S T L E

T O

A F R I E N D.

Villula, ——— et pauper agelle,

Me tibi, et hos unà mecum, quos semper amavi,

Commendo.

751542





## P R E F A C E.

EVERY reader turns with pleasure to those passages of Horace, and Pope, and Boileau, which describe how they lived and where they dwelt ; and which, being interspersed among their satirical writings, derive a secret and irresistible grace from the contrast, and are admirable examples of what in Painting is termed repose.

We have admittance to Horace at all hours. We enjoy the company and conversation at his table ; and his suppers, like Plato's, ‘ non solum in præsentia, sed etiam postero die jucundæ sunt.’ But, when we look round as we sit there, we find ourselves in a Sabine farm, and not in a Roman villa. His windows have every charm of prospect ; but his furniture might have descended from Cincinnatus ; and gems, and pictures, and old marbles are mentioned by him more than once with a seeming indifference.

His English Imitator thought and felt, perhaps, more correctly on the subject ; and embellished his garden and grotto with great  
industry

industry and success. But to these alone he solicits our notice. On the ornaments of his house he is silent ; and appears to have reserved all the minuter touches of his pencil for the library, the chapel, and the banquetting-room of Timon. Nor could the Diable boiteux have laid them open with more ability. Le favori de notre siècle, says Rousseau, tend beaucoup plus à détruire qu'à édifier. On censure d'un ton de maître ; pour proposer, il en faut prendre un autre.

It is the design of this Epistle to illustrate the virtue of True Taste ; and to shew how little she requires to secure, not only the comforts, but even the elegancies of life. True Taste is an excellent Economist. She confines her choice to few objects, and delights in producing great effects by small means : while False Taste is for ever sighing after the new and the rare ; and reminds us, in her works, of the Scholar of Apelles, who, not being able to paint his Helen beautiful, determined to make her fine.

## ARGUMENT.

An Invitation, v. 1. The approach to a Villa described, v. 5. Its situation, v. 17. Its few apartments, v. 57. furnished with casts from the Antique, and engravings from the Italian Masters, v. 63. The dining-room, v. 83. The library, v. 105. A cold bath, v. 117. An ice-house, v. 127. A winter-walk, v. 173. A summer-walk, v. 185. The invitation renewed, v. 205. Conclusion, v. 213.



A N  
E P I S T L E  
T O A  
F R I E N D.

WHEN, with a REAUMUR'S skill, thy curious mind  
Has class'd the insect-tribes of human-kind,  
Each with its busy hum, or gilded wing,  
Its subtle web-work, or its venom'd sting ;  
Let me, to claim a few unvalued hours,  
Point the green lane that leads thro' fern and flowers ;  
The shelter'd gate that opens to my field,  
And the white front thro' mingling elms reveal'd.

In vain, alas, a village-friend invites  
To simple comforts, and domestic rites, 10  
When the gay months of Carnival resume  
Their annual round of glitter and perfume ;  
When Bond-street hails thee to its splendid mart,  
Its hives of sweets, and cabinets of art ;  
And, lo, majestic as thy manly song, 15  
Flows the full tide of human life along.

Still must my partial pencil love to dwell  
On the home-prospects of my hermit cell ;  
The mossy pales that skirt the orchard-green,  
Here hid by shrub-wood, there by glimpses seen ; 20  
And

And the brown pathway, that, with careless flow,  
Sinks, and is lost among the trees below.

Still must it trace (the flattering tints forgive)

Each fleeting charm that bids the landscape live.

Oft o'er the mead, at pleasing distance, pass <sup>4</sup> 25

Browsing the hedge by fits the pannier'd ass ;

The idling shepherd-boy, with rude delight,

Whistling his dog to mark the pebble's flight ;

And in her kerchief blue the cottage-maid,

With brimming pitcher from the shadowy glade. 30

Far to the south a mountain-vale retires,

Rich in its groves, and glens, and village-spires ;

Its upland lawns, and cliffs with foliage hung,

Its wizard-stream, nor nameless nor unfung :

And, thro' the various year, the various day <sup>2</sup>, 35  
What scenes of glory burst, and melt away !

When April-verdure springs in Grosvenor-square,  
And the furr'd Beauty comes to winter there,  
She bids old Nature marr the plan no more,  
Yet still the seasons circle as before. 40  
Ah, still as soon the young Aurora plays,  
Tho' moons and flambeaux trail their broadest blaze ;  
As soon the sky-lark pours his matin song,  
Tho' Evening lingers at the mask so long.

There let her strike with momentary ray, 45  
As tapers shine their little lives away ;

There



There let her practise from herself to steal,  
And look the happiness she does not feel;  
The ready smile and bidden blush employ  
At Faro-routs that dazzle to destroy ; 50  
Fan with affected ease the effenc'd air,  
And lip of fashions with unmeaning stare.  
Be thine to meditate an humbler flight,  
When morning fills the fields with rosy light ;  
Be thine to blend, nor thine a vulgar aim, 55  
Repose with dignity, with Quiet fame.

Here no state-chambers in long line unfold,  
Bright with broad mirrors, rough with fretted gold ;  
Yet modest ornament, with use combin'd,  
Attracts the eye to exercise the mind. 60

Small change of scene, small space his home requires<sup>3</sup>,  
Who leads a life of satisfied desires.

What tho' no marble breathes, no canvas glows,  
From every point a ray of genius flows!<sup>4</sup>  
Be mine to bless the more mechanic skill, 65  
That stamps, renews, and multiplies at will;  
And cheaply circulates, thro' distant climes,  
The fairest relics of the purest times.  
Here from the mould to conscious being start  
Those finer forms, the miracles of art; 70  
Here chosen gems, impressed on sulphur, shine,  
That slept for ages in a second mine;  
And here the faithful graver dares to trace  
A MICHAEL'S grandeur, and a RAPHAEL'S grace!

Thy

Thy gallery, Florence, gilds my humble walls, 75

And my low roof the Vatican recalls !

Soon as the morning-dream my pillow flies,

To waking sense what brighter visions rise !

O mark ! again the couriers of the Sun, <sup>s</sup>

At GUIDO'S call, their round of glory run ! 80

Again the rosy Hours resume their flight,

Obscur'd and lost in floods of golden light !

But could thine erring friend so long forget

(Sweet source of penfive joy and fond regret)

That here its warmest hues the pencil flings, 85

Lo ! here the lost restores, the absent brings ;

And

And still the Few best lov'd and most rever'd <sup>6</sup>  
 Rife round the board their social smile endear'd ? <sup>7</sup>

Nor boast, O Choify, feat of soft delight, <sup>8</sup>  
 The secret charm of thy voluptuous night. 90  
 Vain is the blaze of wealth, the pomp of power !  
 Lo, here, attendant on the shadowy hour,  
 Thy closet-supper, serv'd by hands unseen,  
 Sheds, like an evening-star, its ray serene, <sup>9</sup>  
 To hail our coming. Not a step prophane 95  
 Dares, with rude sound, the cheerful rite restrain ;  
 And, while the frugal banquet glows reveal'd,  
 Pure and unbought \*,— the natives of my field ;

\* —dapes inemptas. HOR.

While blushing fruits thro' scatter'd leaves invite,  
 Still clad in bloom, and veil'd in azure light;— 100  
 With wine, as rich in years as HORACE sings,  
 With water, clear as his own fountain flings,  
 The shifting fide-board plays its humbler part,  
 Beyond the triumphs of a Lorient's art.

Selected shelves shall claim thy studious hours; 105  
 There shall thy ranging mind be fed on flowers! \*  
 There, while the shaded lamp's mild lustre streams,  
 Read ancient books, or woo inspiring dreams; \*  
 .

\* —apis Matinæ

More modoque

Grata carpentis thyma—

HOR.

And, when a fage's buft arrefts thee there, <sup>11</sup>  
 Pauſe, and his features with his thoughts compare. 110  
 —Ah, moſt that Art my grateful rapture calls,  
 Which breathes a foul into the ſilent walls ; \*  
 Which gathers round the Wife of every Tongue, <sup>12</sup>  
 All on whoſe words departed nations hung ;  
 Still prompt to charm with many a converſe ſweet ; 115  
 Guides in the world, companions in retreat !

Tho' my thatch'd bath no rich moſaic knows,  
 A limpid ſpring with unfelt current flows.  
 Emblem of Life ! which, ſtill as we ſurvey,  
 Seems motionleſs, yet ever glides away ! 120

\* Poſtea verò quàm Tyrannio mihi libros diſpoſuit, mens addita videtur  
 meis ædibus. CIRC.

The shadowy walls record, with Attic art,  
The strength and beauty that its waves impart.  
Here THETIS, bending, with a mother's fears  
Dips her dear boy, whose pride restrains his tears.  
There VENUS, rising, shrinks with sweet surprize,  
As her fair self reflected seems to rise!

125

But hence away! yon rocky cave beware!  
A fullen captive broods in silence there.<sup>43</sup>  
There, tho' the dog-star flame, condemn'd to dwell,  
In the dark centre of its inmost cell,  
Wild Winter ministers his dread controul,  
To cool, and crySTALLIZE the nectar'd bowl!  
His faded form an awful grace retains;  
Stern tho' subdued, majestic tho' in chains!

130

Far from the joyless glare, the maddening strife, 135  
 And all 'the dull impertinence of life,'  
 These eyelids open to the rising ray, '4  
 And close, when Nature bids, at close of day.  
 Here, at the dawn, the kindling landscape glows ;  
 There noon-day levees call from faint repose. 140  
 Here the flush'd wave flings back the parting light ;  
 There glimmering lamps anticipate the night.  
 When from his classic dreams the student steals, \*  
 Amid the buzz of crouds, the whirl of wheels,

\* Ingenium, fibi quod vacuas defumpfit Athenas,

Et studiis annos septem dedit, infenuitque

Libris et curis, statuâ taciturnius exit

Plerumque—

HOR.

To



To muse unnotic'd, while around him prefs 145  
The meteor-forms of equipage and drefs ;  
Alone, in wonder loft, he feems to ftand  
A very ft ranger in his native land !  
Like thofe bleft Youths (forgive the fabling page) <sup>15</sup>  
Whofe blamelefs lives deceiv'd a twilight age, \* 150  
Spent in fweet flumbers ; till the miner's fpade  
Unclos'd the cavern, and the morning play'd.  
Ah, what their ft range furprize, their wild delight !  
New arts of life, new manners meet their fight !  
In a new world they wake, as from the dead ; 155  
Yet doubt the trance diffolv'd, the vifion fled !

\* —fallentis femita vitæ.

HOR.

O come,

O come, and, rich in intellectual wealth,  
Blend thought with exercise, with knowledge health;  
Long, in this shelter'd scene of letter'd talk,  
With sober step repeat the penfive walk; 160  
Nor scorn, when graver triflings fail to please,  
The cheap amusements of a mind at ease;  
Here every care in sweet oblivion cast,  
And many an idle hour—not idly pass'd.

No tuneful echoes, ambush'd at my gate, 165  
Catch the blest accents of the wise and great. '6  
Vain of its various page, no Album breathes  
The sigh that Friendship, or the Muse bequeathes.  
Yet some good Genii o'er my hearth preside,  
Oft the far friend, with secret spell, to guide; 170

And

And there I trace, when the grey evening lours,  
A filent chronicle of happier hours!

When Christmas revels in a world of snow,  
And bids her berries blush, her carols flow;  
His spangling shōw'r when Frost the wizard flings, 175  
Or, borne in ether blue on viewless wings,  
O'er the white pane his silvery foliage weaves,  
And gems with icicles the sheltering eaves;  
—Thy muffled friend his nectarine-wall pursues,  
What time the sun the yellow crocus wooes, 180  
Screen'd from the arrowy North; and duly hies \*  
To meet the morning-rumour as it flies;

\* Fallacem circum, vespertinumque pererro

Sæpe forum.

HOR.

To range the murmuring market-place, and view  
The motley groups that faithful TENIERS drew.

When Spring bursts forth in blossoms thro' the vale, 185  
And her wild music triumphs on the gale,  
Oft with my book I muse from stile to stile; \*  
Oft in my porch the listless noon beguile,  
Framing loose numbers, till declining day  
Thro' the green trellis shoots a crimson ray; 190  
Till the West-wind leads on the twilight hours,  
And shakes the fragrant bells of closing flowers.

Thus, in this calm recess, so richly fraught  
With mental light, and luxury of thought;

\* Tantôt, un livre en main, errant dans les prairies—

Thus, while the world but claims its proper part, 195  
Oft in the head, but never in the heart,  
My life steals on; (O could it blend with thine!)  
Careless my course, yet not without design.  
So thro' the vales of Loire the bee-hives glide, ' '  
The light raft dropping with the silent tide; 200  
So, till the laughing scenes are lost in night,  
The busy people wing their various flight,  
Culling unnumber'd sweets from nameless flowers,  
That scent the vineyard in its purple hours.

Rise, ere the watch-relieving clarions play, 205  
Caught thro' St. James's groves at blush of day;  
Ere its full voice the choral anthem flings  
Thro' trophied tombs of heroes and of kings.

Haste to the tranquil shade of learned ease, \*  
Tho' skill'd alike to dazzle and to please ; 210  
Tho' each gay scene be search'd with anxious eye,  
Nor thy shut door be pass'd without a sigh.

If, when this roof shall know thy friend no more,  
Some, form'd like thee, should once, like thee, explore ;  
Invoke the lares of his lov'd retreat, 215  
And his lone walks imprint with pilgrim-feet ;  
Then be it said, (as, vain of better days,  
Some grey domestic prompts the partial praise ;)  
“ Unknown he liv'd, unenvied, not unblest ;  
Reason his guide, and Happiness his guest. 220

\* *Innocuas amo delicias doctamque quietem.*

In the clear mirror of his moral page,

We trace the manners of a purer age.

His soul, with thirst of genuine glory fraught,

Scorn'd the false lustre of licentious thought.

—One fair asylum from the world he knew, 225

One chosen seat, that charms with various view !

Who boasts of more (believe the serious strain)

Sighs for a home, and sighs, alas ! in vain.

Thro' each he roves, the tenant of a day,

And, with the swallow, wings the year away !” 18 230

T H E E N D.





N O T E S  
AND  
I L L U S T R A T I O N S.

NOTE I. Verse 25.

*Oft o'er the mead, at pleasing distance, pafs—*

COSMO of Medicis preferred his Apennine villa, because all that he commanded from its windows was exclusively his own.

How unworthy of his character; and how unlike the wise Athenian, who, when he had a farm to sell, directed the cryer to proclaim, as its best recommendation, that it had a good neighbourhood!

PLUT. in Vit. Themist.

NOTE II. Verse 35.

*And, thro' the various year, the various day—*

Horace commends the house,

—— longos quæ prospicit agros.

And I think he is right. Distant views, if there is a good foreground, are generally the most pleasing; as they contain the greatest variety, both in themselves, and in their accidental variations.

Mr. GILPIN on the High-Lands of Scotland, i. 159.

NOTE

## NOTE III. Verse 61.

*Small change of scene, small space his home requires—*

Many a great man, in passing through the apartments of his palace, has made the melancholy reflection of the venerable Cosmo: *Questa è troppo gran casa à sì poca famiglia.* MACH. 1st. Fior. lib. vii.

I confess, says Cowley, I love littleness almost in all things. A little convenient estate, a little chearful house, a little company, and a very little feast. Essay vi.

So also says the Conqueror of Silesia!

Petit bien, qui ne doit rien,

Petite maison, petite table, &c.

When Socrates was asked why he had built for himself so small a house, "Small as it is," he replied, "I wish I could fill it with friends." PHÆDRUS, l. iii. 9.

These indeed are all that a wise man would desire to assemble; "for a croud is not company, and faces are but a gallery of pictures, and talk but a tinkling cymbal, where there is no love."

BACON'S Essays, xxvii.

## NOTE IV. Verse 64.

*From every point a ray of genius flows!*

By this means, when the heavens are filled with clouds, when the earth swims in rain, and all nature wears a lowering countenance, I withdraw

withdraw myself from these uncomfortable scenes into the visionary worlds of art; where I meet with shining landscapes, gilded triumphs, beautiful faces, and all those other objects that fill the mind with gay ideas, &c. ADDISON.

It is remarkable that Antony, in his adversity, passed some time in a small but splendid retreat, which he called his Timonium, and from which probably originated the idea of the Parisian Boudoir, that favorite apartment, *ou l'on se retire pour être seul, mais ou l'on ne boude point.*

STRABO, l. vii. PLUT. in Vit. Anton.

NOTE V. Verse 79.

*O mark ! again the courfers of the Sun,*

*At GUIDO'S call, &c.*

Alluding to his celebrated fresco in the Rospigliosi Palace at Rome. It has been engraved by Morghen.

NOTE VI. Verse 87.

*And still the Few best lov'd and most rever'd—*

The dining-room is dedicated to Conviviality; or, as Cicero somewhere expresses it, *Communitati vitæ atque victûs*. There we wish most for the society of our friends; and, perhaps, in their absence, most require their portraits.

The moral advantages of this furniture may be illustrated by the pretty story of an Athenian courtesan, “who, in the midst of a riotous banquet  
with

with her lovers, accidentally cast her eye on the portrait of a philosopher, that hung opposite to her seat : the happy character of temperance and virtue struck her with so lively an image of her own unworthiness, that she instantly quitted the room ; and, retiring home, became ever after an example of temperance, as she had been before of debauchery."

WEBB'S Inquiry into the Beauties of Painting, p. 33.

NOTE VII. Verse 88.

*Rise round the board, &c.—*

A long table, and a square table, says Bacon, seem things of form, but are things of substance ; for at a long table a few at the upper end, in effect, sway all the business. Essay xx.

Perhaps Arthur was right, when he instituted the order of the round table. In the town-house of Aix-la-Chapelle is still to be seen the round table, which may almost literally be said to have given peace to Europe in 1748. Nor is it only at a congress of plenipotentiaries that place gives precedence.

NOTE VIII. Verse 89.

*Nor boast, O Choisy, seat of soft delight—*

At the petits soupés of Choisy were first introduced those admirable pieces of mechanism, afterwards carried to perfection by Lorient, the Confidante and the Servante ; a table and a side-board, which descended, and rose again covered with viands and wines. And thus the most luxurious

Court

Court in Europe, after all its boasted refinements, was glad to return at last, by this singular contrivance, to the quiet and privacy of humble life.

Vie privée de Louis XV. tom. ii. p. 43.

NOTE IX. Verse 94:

*Sheds, like an evening-star, its ray serene.*

At a Roman supper statues were sometimes employed to hold the lamps.

— Aurea sunt juvenum simulacra per ædis,

Lampadas igniferas manibus retinentia dextris. LUCR. ii. 24.

A fashion as old as Homer! Odyss. vii. 100.

On the proper degree and distribution of light we may consult a great master of effect. Il lume grande, ed alto, e non troppo potente, farà quello, che renderà le particole de' corpi molto grate. Tratt. della Pittura di Lionardo da Vinci. c. xli.

Hence every artist requires a broad and high light. Michael Angelo used to work with a candle fixed in his hat. Condivi, Vita di Michelagn. Hence also, in a banquet-scene, the most picturesque of all poets has thrown his light from the cieling. Æneid. i. 730.

And hence the "starry lamps" of Milton, that

from the arched roof

Pendent by subtle magic, —————

————— yielded light

As from a sky.

Paradise Lost. i. 726.

## NOTE X. Verse 108.

*Read ancient books, or woo inspiring dreams.*

The reader will here remember that passage of Horace,

Nunc veterum libris, nunc somno, &c.

which was inscribed by Lord Chesterfield on the frieze of his library.

## NOTE XI. Verse 109.

*And, when a sage's bust arrests thee there—*

Siquidem non solum ex auro argentove, aut certe ex ære in bibliothecis dicantur illi, quorum immortales animæ in iisdem locis ibi loquuntur: quinimo etiam quæ non sunt, finguntur, pariuntque desideria non traditi vultus, sicut in Homero evenit. Quo majus (ut equidem arbitrator) nullum est felicitatis specimen, quam semper omnes scire cupere, qualis fuerit aliquis.

PLIN. Nat. Hist. xxxv. 2.

Cicero speaks with great affection of a little seat under Aristotle in the library of Atticus. Literis sustentor & recreor; maloque in illa tua sedecula, quam habes sub imagine Aristotelis, federe, quàm in istorum fella curuli!

Ep. ad Att. iv. 10.

Nor should we forget that Dryden used to draw inspiration from the "majestic face" of Shakspeare; and that a print of Newton was the only ornament of the closet of Buffon. Ep. to Kneller. Voyage à Montbart par Hérault de Séchelles.

In

In the chamber of a man of genius we

write all down :

Such and fuch pictures ;—there the window ;

————— the arras, figures,

Why, fuch, and fuch:

Cymbeline.

NOTE XII. Verse 113.

*Which gathers round the Wife of every Tongue.*

Quis tantis non gaudeat & gloriatur hospitibus, exclaims Petrarch.—Spectare, etfi nihil aliud, certè juvat.—Homerus apud me mutus, immò verò ego apud illum furdus sum. Gaudeo tamen vel aspectû solo, et sæpè illum amplexus ac fufpirans dico: O magne vir, &c.

Epist. Var. Lib.

NOTE XIII. Verse 128.

*A fullen captive broods in silence there.*

This thought is most beautifully dilated in an Inscription for an Ice-house, by a Lady of great celebrity in the Literary World. Nor has it escaped Waller in his verses on St. James's Park. v. 53.

## NOTE XIV. Verse 137.

*These eyelids open to the rising ray.*

Your bed-chamber, and also your library, says Vitruvius, should have an eastern aspect; *usus enim matutinum postulat lumen.*

Not so the picture-gallery; which requires a north-light, *uti colores in ope, propter constantiam luminis, immutata permaneant qualitate.* L. vi. c. 6.

This disposition accords with his plan of a Grecian house. L. vi. c. 9.

## NOTE XV. Verse 149.

*Like those blest Youths (forgive the fabling page)*

See the Legend of the Seven Sleepers, as translated from the Syriac by the care of Gregory of Tours. GIBBON'S Hist. c. 33.

## NOTE XVI. Verse 166.

*Catch the blest accents of the wife and great.*

Mr. Pope delights in enumerating his illustrious guests. Nor is this an exclusive privilege of the Poet. The Medici Palace at Florence exhibits a long and imposing catalogue. '*Semper hi parietes columnæque eruditis vocibus resonuerunt.*'

Another is also preserved at Chanteloup, the seat of the Duke of Choiseul.



## NOTE XVII: Verse 199.

*So thro' the vales of Loire the bee-hives glide.*

An allusion to the floating bee-house, or barge laden with bee-hives, which Goldsmith says he saw in some parts of France and Piedmont.

Hist. of the Earth. viii. 87.

## NOTE XVIII. Verse 230.

*And, with the swallow, wings the year away!*

It was the boast of Lucullus that he changed his climate with the birds of passage. Plut. in Vit. Lucull.

How often must he have felt the truth here inculcated, that the master of many houses has no home!





TO A  
F R I E N D  
ON HIS  
M A R R I A G E.

ON thee, blest youth, a father's hand confers  
The maid thy earliest, fondest wishes knew.  
Each soft enchantment of the soul is hers ;  
Thine be the joys to firm attachment due.

As on she moves with hesitating grace,  
She wins assurance from his soothing voice ;  
And, with a look the pencil could not trace,  
Smiles thro' her blushes, and confirms the choice.

Spare

Spare the fine tremors of her feeling frame !  
To thee she turns—forgive a virgin's fears !  
To thee she turns with surest, tenderest claim ;  
Weakness that charms, reluctance that endears !

At each response the sacred rite requires,  
From her full bosom bursts the unbidden sigh.  
A strange mysterious awe the scene inspires ;  
And on her lips the trembling accents die.

O'er her fair face what wild emotions play !  
What lights and shades in sweet confusion blend !  
Soon shall they fly, glad harbingers of day,  
And settled sunshine on her soul descend !

Ah soon, thine own confest, ecstatic thought !  
That hand shall strew each flinty path with flowers ;  
And those blue eyes, with mildest lustre fraught,  
Gild the calm current of domestic hours !

A

F A R E W E L L.

ONCE more, enchanting girl, adieu !

I must be gone, while yet I may.

Oft shall I weep to think of you ;

But here I will not, cannot stay.

The sweet expression of that face,

For ever shifting, yet the same,

Ah no, I dare not turn to trace.

It melts my soul, it fires my frame !

Yet

Yet give me, give me, ere I go,  
One little lock of those so blest,  
That lend your cheek a warmer glow,  
And on your white neck love to rest.

—Say, when to kindle soft delight,  
That hand has chanc'd with mine to meet,  
How could its thrilling touch excite  
A sigh so short, and yet so sweet?

O say—but no, it must not be.  
Adieu, enchanting girl, adieu !  
—Yet still, methinks, you frown on me ;  
Or never could I fly from you.

TO THE  
G N A T.

W H E N by the greenwood side, at summer eve,  
Poetic visions charm my closing eye ;  
And fairy-scenes, that Fancy loves to weave,  
Shift to wild notes of sweetest Minstrelsy ;  
'Tis thine to range in busy quest of prey,  
Thy feathery antlers quivering with delight,  
Brush from my lids the hues of heav'n away,  
And all is Solitude, and all is Night !  
—Ah now thy barbed shaft, relentless fly,  
Unsheaths it's terrors in the fultry air !

No



No guardian fylph, in golden panoply,  
Lifts the broad shield, and points the sparkling spear.  
Now near and nearer rush thy whirring wings,  
Thy dragon-scales still wet with human gore :  
Hark, thy shrill horn its fearful larum flings !  
—I wake in horror, and ‘dare sleep no more !’

F I N I S.





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